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Line 3, before "editing" insert --initial--

Line 4, before "reediting" insert --subsequent--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

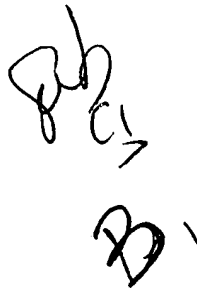
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1. (Twice Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, the image server storing image data representing an image,

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wherein said client computer comprises:


a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit the image data stored in said image server; and

a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that said image server is required to process, and

wherein said image server comprises:


 a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of image data to be transmitted in response to the image transmission command transmitted from said first transmission device, on the basis of the display information transmitted from said second transmission device, and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced image data.


 5. (Twice Amended) An image server used in an image communication system in which the image server and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, wherein the image server stores image data representing an image, comprising:

a receiving device receiving a command from a first transmission device in said client computer to transmit the image data stored in said image server, and to display information relating to said display device that is transmitted from a second transmission device said client computer, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that said image server is required to process;

a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of image data to be transmitted on the basis of received display information; and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced image data.

9. (Twice Amended) A client computer having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server storing image data representing an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit the image data stored in said image server[, and];

a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, [to] display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that said image server is required to process; and

a receiving device receiving the image data reduced on the basis of the display information in said image server.

13. (Twice Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and an image data receiver having a display device are capable of communicating with each other,

wherein said image server comprises:

an image display data transmission device for transmitting image display data for displaying a plurality of sample images images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample images having different characteristics and being transmitted to said image data receiver, and

wherein said image data receiver comprises:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving the transmitted image display data, for displaying the plurality of sample images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data, and for determining characteristics relating to the image selected from the displayed sample images; and

an image characteristics data transmission device for transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics to said image server.

17. (Twice Amended) An image data receiver having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server and the image data receiver are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving the image display data for displaying a plurality of sample images in

displaying the plurality of sample images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data;

determining characteristics relating to the image selected from the displayed sample images; and

transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics from said image data receiver to said image server.

25. (Twice Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, wherein image data and information relating to the image data are transmitted from said client computer to said image server,

wherein said image server [comprises] further includes:

an image output device for outputting an image on the basis of the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer; and

an image information transmission device for transmitting, to said client computer, the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer, [and]

wherein said client computer [comprises] further includes a retrieval means for retrieving image data specified by the information relating to the image data transmitted from said image server, and

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wherein said image output device and said image information transmission device in said image server, and said retrieval means in said client computer are each separate and distinct components within the image communication system.

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26. (Twice Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a receiving device for receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

a synthesis device for synthesizing the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user image data stored in the client computer.

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29. (Twice Amended) In an image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, an image communication method comprising:

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transmitting image data and information relating to the image data from said client computer to said image server;

outputting, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmitting the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer from said image server to said client computer; and

retrieving, in said client computer, image data specified by the information relating to the image data transmitted from said image server,

wherein said transmitting of image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system.

30. (Twice Amended) A method of synthesizing images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

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~~synthesizing the received part of the printing template image~~
data and a part of user image data stored in the client computer.

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33. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program used in an image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

transmit image data and information relating to the image data from said client computer to said image server;

output, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmit, from said image server to said client computer, the information relating to the image data transmitted from said client computer; and

retrieve, in said client computer, image data specified by the information relating to the image data transmitted from said image server,

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wherein said transmitting of image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system under the control of said program.

34. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for synthesizing images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

receive a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

synthesize the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user image data stored in the client computer.

35. (Twice Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by image data is edited in one of said client computers, and editing information relating to the edited image is transmitted from said one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that an image is edited for the first time or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or another client computer to said image server prior to initial editing or subsequent re-editing the image,

wherein said image server further includes:

a judgment device for judging whether or not the initial
 editing or re-editing after said initial editing is allowed on the basis
 of said transmitted execution, and

an allowance data transmission device for transmitting,
 when said judgement device judges that the initial editing or re-
 editing after said initial editing of the image is allowed, allowance
 data to said one or another client computer which has been
 allowed to edit or re-edit the image, and

wherein said one or another client computer further includes
 a control device for performing the initial editing or re-editing after
said initial editing in response to the receiving of allowance data.

41. (Twice Amended) A client computer constituting a system in
 which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of
 communicating with one another, comprising:

an image editing device for performing initial editing of an
 image and subsequent re-editing of the initially edited image;

a receiving device for receiving data representing allowance
 of [edition of an] the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the
image, which is transmitted from the client computer; and

a controller for controlling the image editing device so as to
 execute [edition] initial editing of [an] the image, or subsequent re-

editing of the edited image in response to reception of the allowance data by the receiving device.

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42. (Twice Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by image data is edited in one of the client computers, and editing information relating to the edited image is transmitted from the one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that an image is initially edited or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or from another of said plurality of client computers to said image server prior to editing or re-editing the image,

wherein said image server judges whether or not the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the image is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution data, and transmits, when said judgment device judges that the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the image, and

wherein said one or another client computer performs the initial editing or subsequent re-editing in response to receiving allowance data.